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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:]	
ACHIM WILLING]	Group Art Unit:
]	
Serial No.]	
]	
Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the DO/EO/US]	Examiner:
off PCT/EP00/08282 filed 24 August 2000]	
]	
For: SYSTEM FOR INSPECTING MATT,]	Attorney Docket 1-15698
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February 27, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
 Box PCT
 Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Sir:

Pursuant to Section 1.97 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and prior to the issuance of a first office action, record is hereby made of published prior art the United States Patent and Trademark Office may wish to consider during examination of the above-entitled application which is being filed concurrently herewith under 35 USC 371. No representation is made or intended that a prior art search was conducted, or that no better art than that listed is available.

1-15698

<u>U.S. Patent</u>	<u>Date of Issuance</u>	<u>Inventor</u>
5,237,404	August 17, 1993	Tanaka et al.
5,414,518	May 9, 1995	Yazejian
5,627,646	May 16, 1997	Stewart et al.
6,278,517	August 21, 2001	Willing

<u>Foreign Country/Patent No.</u>		<u>Date of Publication</u>
WIPO	WO 98/08078 A1	February 26, 1998
Germany	DE 40 12 372 A1	October 24, 1991
European	EP 0 374 977 A1	June 27, 1990
	EP 0 374 977 B1	November 18, 1993

Other Prior Art
None.

Copies of the above-noted foreign and U.S. patent documents are enclosed, along with IDS Form PTO/SB/08A. An English text Abstract is attached to DE 40 12 372, as a full English translation is not readily available at this time to the person making this disclosure. US 6,278,517 corresponds to cited document WO 98/08078.

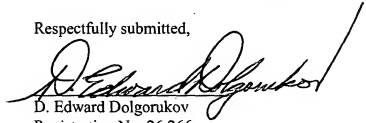
The prior art documents were cited in the International Search Report (copy attached as Exhibit A) completed by the European Patent Office on December 6, 2000, the Written Opinion (copy attached as Exhibit B) issued by the EPO on May 9, 2001, and the International Preliminary Examination Report (copy attached as Exhibit C) completed by the EPO on February 28, 2001, in the corresponding International Application No. PCT/EP00/08282, priority of which is claimed.

1-15698

No fee is required as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action.

It is requested that these references be fully considered and made of record in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/ISB/08A (08-00)

Approved for release through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number		
			Filing Date		
			First Named Inventor		
			Group Art Unit		
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	1-15698

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		5,237,404	B1	Tanaka et al.	08-17-1993
		5,414,518	B1	Yazzejian	05-09-1995
		5,627,646	B1	Stewart et al.	05-16-1997
		6,278,517	B1	Willing	08-21-2001

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ²	Number ³			
	0	WO	9808078	A1	Willing GmbH	p. 18, line 9 - page 19, line 18; page 26, line 22 - page 27, line 29; figs. 10-12 (corresponds to US 6,278,517 B1)
		DE	40 12 372	A1	Vision Tools Bildanalyse Software GmbH	col. 1, line 23 - col. 2, line 27; fig. 1
		EP	0 374 977	A1 B1	Fiat Auto S.p.A.	col. 2, line 43 - col. 3, line 42; fig. 1

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard 51.3).

⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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